



# PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

May 15, 2015

**WARD 2 COUNCIL OFFICE**  
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## PAUL'S NOTE

I had the chance to attend the annual TPD memorial last week. The ceremony was very moving. Chief Villaseñor told the story about being on the team that informed the family of Patrick Hardesty that he had been killed in the line of duty.

Villaseñor also announced that he is planning his retirement. I thank the chief for his service. Right now, it isn't popular to be supportive of the police, but we have some outstanding men and women who are willing to give their time and sometimes their lives for us.

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Many of us have seen the bumper stickers that encourage people

to buy food locally. It is more than a feel good gesture, buying locally can have some positive consequences for our local economy.

I've written about it before, but an article in the current issue of Edible Baja Arizona has a more comprehensive look at buying local. Their example of a group of Tucsonans buying local may surprise you: the firefighters of Station 4.

The buying local idea was first put forward by Ryan Gaudio, one of the fire fighters at Station 4. He achieved a leadership post in the union and he saw how much the city's budget problems are affecting not just the fire department, but the whole gamut of other city services. He realized

that money he and his brother and sister firefighters spend on food for the station should be spent locally, so it would stay local and contribute to the our tax base. In turn, those taxes could support not only firefighters, but police and all other city services.

By the way, according to the article, Gaudio is also a proponent of reusable shopping bags.

It would be easy to dismiss what one small group of people is doing, but the article describes something I've heard of before: the multiplier effect. The American Independent Business Alliance says that out of a dollar spent on a locally owned business, 48 cents will stay in the

## PAUL'S NOTE (CONTINUED)

community. Spending that same dollar at a national chain means that only 14 cents will stay in the community. If, in turn, that local money continues to be spent locally, you can see why it's referred to as a "multiplier effect."

It's something I'm glad Gaudioso and his colleagues (Ray Contreras, Chad DeCastro, Dan Woods, Adam Bower and Sloan Tamietti are also in the article) are thinking about, and it's something I hope more of us think about when we go shopping or even if we just want to buy a cup of coffee.

The article can be found at Edible Baja Arizona's website, [ediblebajaarizona.com](http://ediblebajaarizona.com).

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The Alliance Fund had its annual awards reception this week where they announced the programs they will be funding in our community. The fund is geared to programs that support our gay, lesbian and transgendered neighbors. Many of these programs had trouble getting this sort of funding support before the Alliance Fund came along. There were fifteen recipients this year, including the EON Youth Program which serves teenagers who are at risk for homelessness and also provides support for those suffering from mental health and drug abuse issues. Another grant went to the Southern Arizona Anti-Violence Project, which provides help to LGBTQ individuals suffering from domestic violence. These are all worthy programs and I'm glad that the community is supporting them.

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## VETERAN'S FRIEND

Veteran's Friend's Mission is to make a positive difference in the quality of life of all senior veterans by providing a free service to inform and educate veterans, their families, and surviving spouses about a special VA pension for which they are often entitled but fail to understand.

VA Accredited claims Representative Robert Dhillon has a 100% success rate in obtaining VA pensions benefits. Join Robert for a free educational briefing where you will learn the truth about Veterans Benefits.

Robert Dhillon, president of REAL Solutions Services, operates Veteran's Friend to assist World War II, Korea and Vietnam wartime veterans and their spouses collect their tax-free VA pension, up to \$25,000 a year, to pay for long term health care.

Dates: May 16 and June 20

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Ward 2 Office, 7575 E Speedway.

RSVP: 495-0045

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## HOUGHTON ROAD UPDATE

**Broadway Intersection Improvements:** Project is complete.

**Broadway Intersection Park & Ride:** We have completed most of the work for this project. The bus shelters have arrived and will be going up shortly. We are still waiting for the bus driver modular facility and some other minor amenities, and we hear Sun Tran would like to start using this facility this month. The final monument signs should be going in any day.

**Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street:** The scheduled completion date is September 30, 2016. Construction is moving forward as follows:

We are working on water lines, storm drains and box culverts on the east side of the road. Once we have the preliminary work done on these items, we will be constructing the temporary pavement on top of them, to shift traffic to the east side of the road, so we can work on the west side.

We are working on some water lines that are under the residential streets adjacent to Houghton, and we are narrowing down traffic to one lane while we complete the water work for each side street. The work at each street takes less than a day, so please bear with us while we make these adjustments. We will have several types of barricades and a few flaggers to help you through this area.

In the near future we will be removing some dirt from Houghton and moving it over to 22nd, so you will also see 22nd, east of Houghton, starting to take shape. We are also going to have a lot of water work in the middle of the Houghton and 22nd Street work, and we are looking at way to approach that work with the least amount of traffic disturbance.

The artists have presented us with some concepts that we would like to present to a Ward 2 CDRC meeting we are in the process of scheduling. As soon as I have some drawings to share, I will add them to this update.

**Adjacent project:** Broadway, Camino Seco to Houghton is starting up and we will let you know when the public meetings for this project are starting. We will also invite them to a Ward 2 CDRC meeting to provide you with an update.

We also have an active two-year landscape establishment contract to keep the landscaping looking as it should. We can contact them if we have any issues with this aspect of the project. Our landscape architect meets with them weekly to evaluate the site.

on this committee, please let us know so we can address that. We are getting lots of great items to add to our "parking lot" list for future discussion and things for our first meeting agenda for this project.

**22nd to Golf Links and further south:** We just received notification that we are going to get to move forward with this project as well. This should follow a similar schedule as Houghton Road: Valencia to Old Vail/MAC Way. We will keep you updated on more details as they become available.

As always, we appreciate your patience, and we want to hear from you if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.

## CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

**Memorial Day Breakfast:** The Carol West Senior Addition will host a Memorial Day Breakfast on Thursday, May 21 at 9 am. The event will include a performance by the Star Spangled Seniors, and food sponsored by Brookdale Ventana Canyon.

For any questions, please contact 791-4121.

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## PARKS PROGRAMS

**Spring Swim Schedule:** The Spring Swim schedule for Udall Park and Ft. Lowell Park started April 1st. Contact the Aquatics Division at 791-4245/791-5352 or visit <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/parks/aquatics#hours> for pool locations and swim schedule.

**Summer 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog:** The Summer 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog will be available on Monday, April 20, 2015. The catalog can be picked-up at all Parks and Recreation facilities. It can be viewed on-line at [www.ezeereg.com](http://www.ezeereg.com) Contact the Registration Office at 791-4877 for additional information.

**Tucson POPS Concerts:** The Tucson POPS Concerts will take place on May 17, 24, 31 and June 7 and 14. Concerts start at 7:00 p.m. at the DeMeester Outdoor Performance Center in Reid Park. There is a limited amount of seating at DeMeester which fills up quickly. Please bring chairs or a blanket.

**The Arizona Symphonic Winds Concerts:** The WINDS Concert series will take place May 16, 23, 30 and June 5. The program will take place at the Lazslo Veres Amphitheater in Udall Park. Concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. Please bring a chair or blanket.

**Summer Road Races and Track and Field:** Summer Track and Field events will be held at Roy Drachman Stadium near Plummer & 15th every Tuesday from June 2 through July 15.

Summer Road Races will be held each Thursday from June 4 thru July 16 at various parks around Tucson. For more information, call 791-4870.

Onsite registration for both events begins at 5:45 with the competition starting at 6:30. Registration is \$3 for children and \$4 for adults. Ribbons will be given to the top finishers. For details, please call 791-4870.

**Facility Closures:** All Parks and Recreation facilities will be closed on Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

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**PAUL CUNNINGHAM,  
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Remember to like  
Paul on Facebook!

Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office  
for the following charities:

**THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable  
Items**

**DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA—  
Infant/Child/Adult Diapers**

**TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals  
and Families in Need**

**LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses**

**DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/  
Dance Equipment**

**CASA MARIA—Plastic bags**

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## MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on Tuesday, May 19. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session.

There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs>

